

Message Text

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16

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 SCCT-01 AID-05 OMB-01 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EUR-12

SAM-01 SAB-01 /083 W

----- 124572

O R 220939Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN FRG

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 7421

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, IS, SY

SUBJ: ISRAELI MEDIA ON RAMAT MAGSHIMIM TERRORIST INCIDENT

REF: A) DAO TEL AVIV 2208 NOV 75 B) FBIS 21 1759Z NOV 75

C) FBIS 212025Z NOV 75

SUMMARY: STATEMENTS BY DEFENSE MINISTER, CHIEF OF STAFF AND IDF SPOKES-
MAN

ON ISRAELI RADIO AND TV HAVE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT TERRORIST
INCIDENT TOOK PLACE WITH KNOWLEDGE AND ASSISTANCE OF SYRIAN ARMY AND
CONSTITUTES VIOLATION OF SYRIAN/ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT.
RADIO HAS ALSO CARRIED REPORT OF DAMASCUS PRESS CONFERENCE IN
WHICH MEMBER OF PFLP ADMITTED PARTICIPATION IN INCIDENT. END
SUMMARY.

1. DEFMIN PERES SPEAKING ON ISRAELI TV NOV 21 SAID THAT RAMAT
MAGSHIMIM TERRORIST INCIDENT "CONTRADICTS THE SPIRIT AND THE CONTENT
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OF THE INTERIM SETTLEMENT". HE ALSO STATED THAT IN THE PAST WHEN

SYRIA HAD WISHED TO PREVENT SUCH PENETRATIONS, IT HAD DONE SO.
"HENCE, AGAIN I WOULD SAY THAT SYRIA IN THIS CASE DID NOT WISH
TO PREVENT THIS, AS HAD BEEN THE CASE BEFORE". PERES ALSO REFERRED
TO OCT 28 INCIDENT ON GOLAN HEIGHTS, NOTING THAT TERRORISTS HAD BEEN
BRIEFED BY SYRIAN INTELLIGENCE OFFICER "OF QUITE SENIOR
RANK", INDICATING SYRIAN INVOLVEMENT IN THAT EARLIER EVENT.
HE REFUSED TO BE DRAWN OUT ON IMPLICATIONS FOR RENEWAL OF
UNDOF MANDATE EXCEPT TO SAY, "IT IS CLEAR THAT SECOND
INCIDENT AGGREGATES THE ISSUE AND DOES NOT MAKE IT LESS SERIOUS,
BUT THE MATTER CALLS FOR A MORE THOROUGH EXAMINATION". (REF C)

2. ISRAELI RADIO REPORTED THAT CHIEF OF STAFF GUR SPEAKING TO
MILITARY CORRESPONDENTS NOV 21 SAID THAT THERE WAS PRACTICALLY
NO DOUBT THAT THE TERRORISTS RECEIVED ASSISTANCE FROM THE SYRIAN
ARMY IF ONE TAKES INTO CONSIDERATION THE POINT FROM WHICH THEY
PENETRATED. AT THE POINT WHERE THEY CROSSED THE BORDER, THERE IS
A DENSE DEPLOYMENT OF THE SYRIAN ARMY, WITH STRONGHOLDS EQUIPPED
WITH TRENCHES AND DIRT RAMPS. GUR ALSO SAID THIS WAS PROBABLY
A HIT AND RUN OPERATION, AS TERRORISTS WERE NOT IN POSSESSION OF
EQUIPMENT THAT WOULD ENABLE THEM TO NEGOTIATE A BARGAIN (PRESUMABLY
THIS REFERS TO SEEKING RELEASE OF PRISONERS).

3. ISRAELI RADIO NOV 21 ALSO CARRIED STATEMENT RELEASED BY IDF
SPOKESMAN THAT TERRORIST INCIDENT WAS REGARDED AS SERIOUS VIOLATIONS
OF DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT (TEXT NOT AVAILABLE).

4. ISRAELI RADIO NOV 22 REPORTED THAT INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFYING
HIMSELF AS MEMBER OF PFLP TOOK CREDIT FOR PARTICIPATION IN
TERRORIST INCIDENT IN COURSE OF NOV 21 PRESS CONFERENCE IN
DAMASCUS.

5. PRIME TIME TV NEWS PROGRAM NOV 21 ALSO CARRIED INTERVIEWS WITH
RAMAT MAGSHIMIM SETTLERS, INCLUDING DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT
AND STATEMENTS OF THEIR DETERMINATION TO PURSUE THEIR REGULAR
FARMING AND RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES DESPITE INCIDENT. IT WAS ALSO
NOTED THAT DURING 1973-74 WAR OF ATTRITION SHELLING OF SETTLEMENT
HAD ALSO LED TO CASUALTIES (FOUR MEN AND ONE WOMAN IN SEPARATE
ATTACKS).

6. COMMENT: TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, THIS IS FIRST TERRORIST ATTACK
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TO REACH GOLAN HEIGHTS SETTLEMENT (IN OCT 28 INCIDENT TERRORISTS
WERE APPREHENDED BEFORE REACHING THEIR OBJECTIVES). IT IS ALSO
FIRST ATTACK IN WHICH TERRORISTS INFLICTED CASUALTIES ON ISRAELIS
AND GOT AWAY SCOT-FREE.
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